

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1- 8 (Cancelled).

9. (New) In an apparatus, having a housing (10, 12) and having at least one rotating component (16, 18), disposed in the housing (10, 12), which component is radially and/or axially supported by bearing means in the housing, the housing (10, 12) comprising lightweight aluminum or an aluminum alloy, and at least one part (10, 12) of the housing at least partly forming the bearing means of the at least one component (16, 18), the improvement wherein the at least one housing part (10, 12), at least in the region of the bearing for the at least one component (16, 18), is provided with a coating (50) of a nickel alloy, which on its surface has an at least substantially plane microstructure.

10. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the coating (50) comprises a nickel-phosphorus alloy.

11. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the coating (50) is hardness-enhanced by tempering.

12. (New) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the coating (50) is hardness-enhanced by tempering.

13. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the housing part (10) has at least one bearing journal (24, 26), on which the at least one component (16, 18) is radially supported; and wherein at least the at least one journal (24, 26) is provided on its surface with the coating (50).

14. (New) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the housing part (10) has at least one bearing journal (24, 26), on which the at least one component (16, 18) is radially supported; and wherein at least the at least one journal (24, 26) is provided on its surface with the coating (50).

15. (New) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the housing part (10) has at least one bearing journal (24, 26), on which the at least one component (16, 18) is radially supported; and wherein at least the at least one journal (24, 26) is provided on its surface with the coating (50).

16. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the housing part (10, 12) has a wall (21, 23; 15), which is disposed at least approximately perpendicularly to the pivot axis (25, 27) of the at least one component (16, 18), and which forms an axial bearing of the at least one component (16, 18); and wherein at least the wall (21, 23; 15) of the housing part (10, 12) is provided with the coating (50).

17. (New) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the housing part (10, 12) has a wall (21, 23; 15), which is disposed at least approximately perpendicularly to the pivot axis (25, 27) of the at least one component (16, 18), and which forms an axial bearing of the at least one

component (16, 18); and wherein at least the wall (21, 23; 15) of the housing part (10, 12) is provided with the coating (50).

18. (New) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the housing part (10, 12) has a wall (21, 23; 15), which is disposed at least approximately perpendicularly to the pivot axis (25, 27) of the at least one component (16, 18), and which forms an axial bearing of the at least one component (16, 18); and wherein at least the wall (21, 23; 15) of the housing part (10, 12) is provided with the coating (50).

19. (New) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the housing part (10, 12) has a wall (21, 23; 15), which is disposed at least approximately perpendicularly to the pivot axis (25, 27) of the at least one component (16, 18), and which forms an axial bearing of the at least one component (16, 18); and wherein at least the wall (21, 23; 15) of the housing part (10, 12) is provided with the coating (50).

20. (New) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein this apparatus is a pump, and the at least one component (16, 18) is a pumping element of the pump.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein this apparatus is a pump, and the at least one component (16, 18) is a pumping element of the pump.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein this apparatus is a pump, and the at least one component (16, 18) is a pumping element of the pump.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein this apparatus is a pump, and the at least one component (16, 18) is a pumping element of the pump.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein this apparatus is a pump, and the at least one component (16, 18) is a pumping element of the pump.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the pump is a gear pump, and the at least one pumping element (16, 18) is a gear wheel.